

Claims

1. Use of nucleotide sequence antisense to the resistin mRNA or parts thereof, or siRNA in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis,
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2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the siRNA comprises 15 to 50 ribonucleotides, preferably 18 to 45 ribonucleotides, more preferably 18 to 40 ribonucleotides, even more preferred 18 to 35 ribonucleotides, still more preferred 18 to 30 ribonucleotides and most preferred 18 to 25 ribonucleotides.
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3. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the treatment comprises preventing or alleviating the symptoms associated with Rheumatoid Arthritis.
4. The use according to any of the preceding claims, wherein the agent is administered
15 via injection or via the lung.
5. The use according to claim 4, wherein the agent is formulated as a solution, suspension, emulsion, spray, aerosol.
- 20 6. A method for diagnosing the onset of Rheumatoid arthritis in a individual comprising the steps of :
 - (i) determining the level of resistin in a sample of a patient deemed to have developed Rheumatoid Arthritis; and
 - (ii) comparing the level with a control, obtained from a healthy individual;wherein an increase of the level of resistin is indicative of the onset of Rheumatoid
25 Arthritis.